Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 25-28 and 50-59. Claims 60, 61, 65-68, 73, 74, 78-79, 81, 86 and 90-92 have been amended. Claims 60-96 are pending. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1-59. (Canceled)

60. (Currently Amended) A method of detecting or identifying an inhibitor of a mammalian GPR-9-6 ~~receptor~~ comprising:

a) combining an agent to be tested, ~~a ligand or promoter of mammalian GPR-9-6~~ TECK and a cell expressing a protein comprising mammalian GPR-9-6 ~~or functional variant thereof~~ under conditions suitable for detecting a ~~ligand- or promoter~~ TECK-induced response, wherein said ~~functional variant~~ GPR-9-6 binds TECK ~~and~~, mediates TECK-induced signaling or a TECK-induced ~~cellular~~ response and comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least about 90% similar to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2; and

b) determining the ability of the test agent to inhibit said ~~ligand- or promoter~~ TECK-induced response,

wherein inhibition of said ~~ligand- or promoter~~ TECK-induced response by the agent is indicative that the agent is an inhibitor.

61. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 60 wherein said ~~ligand or promoter of mammalian GPR-9-6 is TECK~~ TECK-induced response is chemotaxis, Ca^{2+} flux, GDP/GTP exchange by GPR-9-6 associated G proteins, cellular proliferation, cellular migration, secretion, exocytosis, degranulation, inflammatory mediator release or respiratory burst.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 60 wherein said cell is a recombinant cell.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 60 wherein said cell is a cell line.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 63 wherein said cell line is selected from the group consisting of MOLT-4 and MOLT-13.

65. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 60 wherein said ~~ligand- or promoter~~ TECK-induced response is chemotaxis.

66. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 60 wherein said ~~ligand- or promoter~~ TECK-induced response is Ca^{2+} flux.

67. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 60 wherein said ~~mammalian~~ GPR-9-6 ~~or functional variant thereof~~ is a human GPR-9-6 ~~or functional variant thereof~~.

68. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 60 wherein said ~~mammalian~~ protein comprising GPR-9-6 ~~or functional variant~~ is a ~~polypeptide~~ protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 ~~or a functional variant of said polypeptide~~.

69. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 60 wherein said test agent is an organic compound.

70. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 60 wherein said test agent is an antibody or antigen-binding fragment of an antibody.

71. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 60 wherein said test agent is a peptide.

72. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 60 wherein said test agent is a nucleic acid.

73. (Currently Amended) A method of detecting or identifying an inhibitor of a mammalian GPR-9-6 ~~receptor~~ comprising:

a) combining an agent to be tested, ~~a ligand or promoter of mammalian GPR-9-6~~ TECK and a cell expressing a protein comprising mammalian GPR-9-6 under conditions suitable for detecting a ~~ligand- or promoter~~ TECK-induced response, wherein said GPR-9-6 binds TECK, mediates TECK-induced signaling or a TECK-induced response, is recognized by mAb 3C3 (ATCC HB-12653) and comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least about 90% similar to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2; and

b) determining the ability of the test agent to inhibit said ~~ligand- or promoter~~ TECK-induced response,

wherein inhibition of said ~~ligand- or promoter~~ TECK-induced response by the agent is indicative that the agent is an inhibitor.

74. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 73 wherein said ~~ligand or promoter of mammalian GPR-9-6 is TECK~~ TECK-induced response is chemotaxis, Ca^{2+} flux, GDP/GTP exchange by GPR-9-6 associated G proteins, cellular proliferation, cellular migration, secretion, exocytosis, degranulation, inflammatory mediator release or respiratory burst.

75. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 73 wherein said cell is a recombinant cell.

76. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 73 wherein said cell is a cell line.

77. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 76 wherein said cell line is selected from the group consisting of MOLT-4 and MOLT-13.

78. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 73 wherein said ~~ligand- or promoter~~ TECK-induced response is chemotaxis.

79. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 73 wherein said ~~ligand- or promoter~~ TECK-induced response is Ca^{2+} flux.

80. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 73 wherein said GPR-9-6 is a human GPR-9-6.

81. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 73 wherein said protein comprising GPR-9-6 is a protein ~~comprises~~ comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 73 wherein said test agent is an organic compound.

83. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 73 wherein said test agent is an antibody or antigen-binding fragment of an antibody.

84. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 73 wherein said test agent is a peptide.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 73 wherein said test agent is a nucleic acid.

86. (Currently Amended) A method of detecting or identifying an inhibitor of a human GPR-9-6 ~~receptor~~ comprising:

a) combining an agent to be tested, TECK and a cell expressing a protein comprising human GPR-9-6 under conditions suitable for detecting a ~~ligand- or promoter~~ TECK-induced response, wherein said human GPR-9-6 binds TECK, mediates TECK-induced signaling or a TECK-induced response and comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least about 90% similar to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 ; and

b) determining the ability of the test agent to inhibit said response,

wherein inhibition of said ~~ligand- or promoter~~ TECK-induced response by the agent is indicative that the agent is an inhibitor[[.]]; and

wherein said TECK-induced response is chemotaxis or Ca^{2+} flux.

87. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 86 wherein said cell is a recombinant cell.

88. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 86 wherein said cell is a cell line.

89. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 88 wherein said cell line is selected from the group consisting of MOLT-4 and MOLT-13.

90. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 86 wherein said ~~ligand- or promoter~~ TECK-induced response is chemotaxis.

91. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 86 wherein said ~~ligand- or promoter~~ TECK-induced response is Ca^{2+} flux.

92. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 86 wherein said protein comprising human GPR-9-6 is a protein ~~comprises~~ comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

93. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 86 wherein said test agent is an organic compound.

94. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 86 wherein said test agent is an antibody or antigen-binding fragment of an antibody.

95. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 86 wherein said test agent is a peptide.

96. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 86 wherein said test agent is a nucleic acid.